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AP Literature

Mr. Lane

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This I Believe Reflection

I always have some type of mental connection to each paper I write. This I Believe essay was a much more personal and heartfelt paper. We were given the chance to finally freely express our belief on any issue we felt brave enough to address. After coming up with my topic I needed some type of concrete evidence to support my thesis. When I finally thought of using my friend’s diagnosis of Diabetes’s I knew my paper would be brought to a whole different level for me and others. I found myself putting much more thought into each sentence I wrote describing my friend’s sickness. I wanted so badly to accurately describe the challenges she undergoes daily. I was relying on pathos to really bring substantiality to my paper. I wanted people to feel the various emotions I tried to recreate. I wanted people to see and recall their own personal experience of heartache and then look back upon that time in their life and be able to see some good that has come from it. I felt very powerfully about my thesis and wanted others to feel the same way or at least understand how I came to believe what I did. I think overall I managed to do this and I am very proud of this.

I definitely struggled with the word count on this paper. I normally write more than is needed for papers and in this case it was no different. In this scenario I did not have the ability to just allow my paper to exceed the maximum. I was forced to go back and delete things I felt unnecessary to the central point. This was very difficult because each sentence I wrote felt to me vital to the paper as a whole. Upon asking others opinion I opened my eyes to see that I was too protective of my paper and after I welcomed criticism from others I began to see several things that could be taken out. This need for minimizing the size of my paper was actually beneficial. I was able to express my belief in fewer words and thus emphasize the more important aspects of what I wanted to say. I did a lot of revising on this paper and I feel it showed in my final copy. I also am grateful that I wrote this because I was able to show the friend whom I wrote about the actual essay. She was very touched from my writing and felt much appreciated. I was given the best of both worlds with this assignment, a chance to express a strong belief and a chance to brighten a close friends day.